(c) Metal Passes are issued to railway officers for journeys on official duty. Other passes are issued for journeys on official duty/privilege/post retirement complimentary account.

(d) The system is in vogue since long. Metal Passes of different kinds are issued to Railway officers, depending on their grade and status.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) No, Sir.

Removal of Encroachment on Railway Land

*43. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by the Railways for the removal of unauthorised encroachment on Railway land throughout the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways have identified the total areas of about 2457 hectares of railway land under encroachment or occupied by unauthorised persons in the country;

(c) if so, the zone-wise details thereof particularly in Gujarat; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (d) Removal of encroachments on Railway land is a continuous process. Regular inspections are done by the Railway Officials to prevent fresh encroachments, and these are removed as soon as they are noticed. Regarding old encroachments, action is taken to remove them under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

To prevent encroachments on Railway land, construction of boundary wall and fencing in the vulnerable sections are undertaken. Planting of suitable trees/ shrubs including quick growing thorny trees is also done.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Information about area of railway land under encroachment is not maintained State-wise but Zonewise as Railway Zones span over more than one State. The details are as follows:—

Railway	Area of Under	Railway land encroachment (in hect.)
CR		64
ER		85
NR		900
NER		115
NFR		304
SR		83
SCR		84
SER		715
WR		107
		2457

Schemes and Laws Relating to Women

*44. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken to popularise laws relating to women development schemes for rural women, Mahila Samriddhi Yojana etc.; and

(b) the implementing agencies of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) The Government of India has brought out a series of Legal Literacy Manuals in English and Hindi in simple and illustrative language to educate women about their basic rights. These have been translated into 14 regional languages and also been made into video films for better dissemination. Under the scheme of Education Work for prevention of Atrocities on Women, assistance is given to voluntary organisations, women's studies centres